

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Includes 2-page attachment



# **Celebrate Ability in the Central West: Arts Activities for International Day of People with a Disability**

When International Day of People with a Disability is celebrated around the world on December 3, Central West professional and community artists will be involved.

It's a time for people with a disability, their friends, families and carers to celebrate their abilities with the wider community. Over 150 events are being held in NSW throughout November and December.

In the Central West arts focused events will be held under the banner 'Celebrate Ability', from workshops in painting, sculpting and photography, to exhibitions, markets and even a new award for professional and community artists with a disability.

The inaugural DisArts Award is a Lithgow City Council competition for two-dimensional and sculptural arts created by artists with a disability. Like other projects in the region it includes a public exhibition of work, at Eskbank House and Museum in Lithgow. In Cowra an exhibition will showcase paintings created in a workshop at Cowra Regional Art Gallery. Activities will also be held in Bathurst, Forbes and Orange.

To find out more about an event in the central west go to:

<http://www.artsoutwest.org.au/projects/CelebrateAbility08.htm>

To find out more about the NSW International Day of People with a Disability program go to:

[www.dontdismyability.com.au](http://www.dontdismyability.com.au)

### **Funding received to develop Regional Arts and Disability Strategy**

Arts OutWest have received funding from the Australia Council for the Arts to conduct background research for a Central West Regional Arts and Disability Strategy.

"The Arts has a vital role to play in health and disability services and programs, and a clear regional strategy around this is required at all levels of community and government" said Arts OutWest Executive Officer Hannah Semler.

Arts OutWest will begin focus group sessions with community groups and artists shortly.

### **Federal Disability Strategy**

The federal government is also developing a National Disability Strategy with a consultation session at Glenroi Community Centre Orange on Wednesday November 12, 1-4pm.



## FULL PROGRAM OF EVENTS 2008

### Bathurst

#### Celebrate Creativeness

A day of celebration with a range of art and craft activities, games and cooking demonstrations

When: Wednesday December 3, 9.30am - 12.00pm

Where: Bathurst Seymour Centre, 55 Seymour Street Bathurst

Cost: Free

Contact: Terisa Ashworth 6332 1449 / [terisa@bathurstseymourcentre.org.au](mailto:terisa@bathurstseymourcentre.org.au)

Web: [www.bathurstseymourcentre.org.au](http://www.bathurstseymourcentre.org.au)

Facilities: 

#### Celebrate our Ability to be Creative

Bathurst Independent Living Skills Inc (BILS) are a Post School Day Program catering for up to 23 clients with different disabilities. Local Artist, Kay Chapman will explore the use of different media.

When: Opens Tuesday December 2, 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Where: Wattle Foyer, Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre, 105 William St Bathurst

Cost: FREE

Contact: Kim Rochester, Bathurst Independent Living Skills 02 6331 1006 / [bilsi@bigpond.com](mailto:bilsi@bigpond.com)

Facilities: 

### Cowra

#### Createability

An art exhibition showcasing the talents of local artists with a disability. These painting works were created in a workshop with artist Nyree Reynolds at Cowra Regional Art Gallery in October 2008. The exhibition will be opened by Cowra Special Needs' ambassadors Belinda Green and Steve Mason. A display will also include memorabilia and highlights of the 2008 Beijing Paralympics. BBQ lunch provided on the day of the exhibition.

When: Monday December 1, 10am-3pm

Where: Cowra Special Needs Services, 85 Brisbane Street Cowra

Cost: FREE

Contact: Michelle McAllister, Cowra Special Needs Services 02 6341 3575 [specialneeds@westnet.com.au](mailto:specialneeds@westnet.com.au)

Web: [www.cowraspecialneeds.org](http://www.cowraspecialneeds.org)

Facilities: 

### Forbes

#### Windows of Abilities


The House With No Steps in partnership with the Forbes Shire Council are excited to bring the Window of Ability Event to celebrate this special day with the community of Forbes. This event is for all of the Forbes Community to celebrate and we warmly welcome one and all to attend. The program starts with three one-hour workshops in printmaking, photography and sculpting for people with a disability in during the week of 10-14 November. The workshops will be followed by the Window of Ability exhibition, showcasing the wonderful works created. Centre.

When: Workshops: Monday November 10-Friday November 14, 1-2pm  
Exhibition: Tuesday December 2, 12pm

Where: Forbes Youth and Community Centre,  
Cnr of Battye and Press Streets Forbes

Cost: Gold Coin Donation

Contact: Alison Aldridge-Nunn, Forbes Shire Council 02 6851 1739 / [alisonal@forbes.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alisonal@forbes.nsw.gov.au)

Facilities: 

# Lithgow

## Art Display

Lithgow High School and Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre Disability Services have joined forces to produce a spectacular display of their latest artworks.

Centre.

When: Monday December 1 – Monday December 8, 9am-5pm

Where: Lithgow Learning Centre, Main St Lithgow

Cost: FREE

Contact: Christine Boyd, LINC 02 6352 2077 / [christine@linc.org.au](mailto:christine@linc.org.au)

Web: [www.linc.org.au](http://www.linc.org.au)

Facilities: 

## Craft and Plant stall

Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre Disability Services will host a stall selling handmade cards, crafts and a variety of plants

When: Thursday December 4 and Friday December 5, 10.30am-2.30pm

Where: Lithgow Valley Plaza, Corner of Lithgow and Bent Streets Lithgow

Cost: FREE

Contact: Christine Boyd, LINC 02 6352 2077

[christine@linc.org.au](mailto:christine@linc.org.au)

Web: [www.linc.org.au](http://www.linc.org.au)

Facilities: 

## DisArts Awards & Exhibition

The inaugural DisArts Awards is an Arts competition held for professional and community artists with a Disability who reside in the Lithgow Local Government Area. The competition allows artworks to be submitted under the categories of two-dimensional and Sculptural Arts. The DisArts Awards provide recognition for professional and community artists and offers artists an opportunity to exhibit their works locally highlighting the creative talents and abilities of artists with a disability. The exhibition will continue until January 2009.

When: Opens Wednesday December 3, runs until the end of January 2009

Where: Eskbank House & Museum, Corner of Inch Street and Bennett Street  
Lithgow

Cost: FREE

Contact: Deborah McGrath, Lithgow City Council 02 6354 9999 / [council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au)

Web: [www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au)

Facilities: 

# Orange

## BBQ Lunch

Orange DADHC will be holding a Free BBQ.

When: Wednesday December 3, midday

Where: Orange Adventure Playground

Cost: FREE

Contact: Rachel McNaught [Rachel.McNaught@dadhc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Rachel.McNaught@dadhc.nsw.gov.au) 63638655

Facilities: 

## Discovering Disability

A poster design competition, equipment trials and mobility challenge in Orange including a display of great artworks from Anson Street School.

When: Wednesday 3 December, 11am-2pm

Where: Orange Central Shopping Centre, Level 3, outside Colorado /

Contact: Amanda Rodwell 02 6393 8600 / [arodwell@orange.nsw.gov.au](mailto:arodwell@orange.nsw.gov.au)

Facilities: 

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